Death Valley National Park Update

This is the latest information available from Death Valley National Park. An additional update will be sent on August 23. Superintendent J.T. Reynolds stated, "We will reopen parts of the park as soon as it is safe for our employees and visitors. We thank the public for their understanding and continued patience."

- Death Valley National Park remains closed until further notice because of damage to critical infrastructure from flash flooding during the storm August 15, 2004. For safety reasons, the main entrances to the park remain barricaded and/or staffed with law enforcement personnel. Two fatalities from that flooding were discovered on August 16, 2004.
- Death Valley personnel are continuing work to repair critical infrastructure at the Furnace Creek developed area. Crews finished work on the main water line and have now finished testing that system. The boil water order was lifted at 11:30 a.m. Sunday morning. In an unrelated incident, the telephones in the area, including towns around the park, were down for a day and a half. The phones are now working.
- Road crews are continuing to assess the damage and have begun preliminary repair work on the park roadways. National Park Service crews from Death Valley, Joshua Tree, Lake Mead National Recreation Area and California Department of Transportation, District 9 (Caltrans) will continue this work over the weekend. We will have a better estimate of that work and a preliminary schedule next week.
- Unless there is a major update to report, no reports will go out this weekend.

-NPS-

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